

***What Is Claimed Is:***

1           1.       An apparatus comprising:  
2                   means for opening a connection between a first client and an  
3 interface unit;  
4                   means for opening a connection between said interface unit and  
5 a server if no free connection is open between said interface unit and said server;  
6                   means for allowing said first client to access information on said  
7 server via said connection;  
8                   means for opening a connection between a second client and said  
9 interface unit; and  
10                  means for allowing said second client to access information on  
11 said server via said connection by determining as soon as said first client is  
12 finished with said connection without waiting for said first client to initiate said  
13 first client is finished with said connection.

1           2.       The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising:  
2                   means for delinking said connection between said first and second  
3 clients and said interface unit while keeping open said connection between said  
4 interface unit and said server.

1           3.       The apparatus of claim 1, wherein determining when said first  
2 client is finished with said connection is comprised of:  
3                   means for utilizing a content length parameter to determine  
4 whether all of said information has been sent to said first client.

1           4.       The apparatus of claim 1, wherein determining when said first  
2 client is finished with said connection is comprised of:  
3                   means for utilizing two or more chunk-size fields to determine  
4 whether all of said information has been sent to said first client.

1           5.     A method comprising the steps of:  
2                     opening a connection between a first client and an interface unit;  
3                     opening a connection between said interface unit and a server if  
4                     no free connection is open between said interface unit and said server;  
5                     allowing said first client to access information on said server via  
6                     said connection;  
7                     opening a connection between a second client and said interface  
8                     unit; and  
9                     allowing said second client to access information on said server  
10                    via said connection by determining as soon as said first client is finished with said  
11                    connection without waiting for said first client to initiate said first client is  
12                    finished with said connection.

1           6.     The method of claim 5, further comprising the step of:  
2                     delinking said connection between said first and second clients and  
3                     said interface unit while keeping open said connection between said interface unit  
4                     and said server.

1           7.     The method of claim 5, wherein said determining when said first  
2                    client is finished with said connection is comprised of the step of:  
3                    utilizing a content length parameter to determine whether all of  
4                    said information has been sent to said first client.

1           8.     The method of claim 5, wherein said determining when said first  
2                    client is finished with said connection is comprised of the step of:  
3                    utilizing two or more chunk-size fields to determine whether all  
4                    of said information has been sent to said first client.